

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 03530 120318Z

73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

/058 W

----- 002728

R 111410Z MAR 75 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9971
INFO USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 3530

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: THE PSI AND THE "LAW AND ORDER" ISSUE

REF: ROME 3415

1. SOCIALIST PARTY (PSI) STAGED ELABORATE NATIONAL CONVENTION ON "PUBLIC ORDER AND CRIMINALITY" AT MILAN, MARCH 7-9, TO HIGHLIGHT ITS POSITION ON THIS POLITICALLY SENSITIVE ISSUE PRIOR TO COALITION PARTIES' SUMMIT ON THE SUBJECT SCHEDULED MARCH 13. CREDIBILITY OF MEETING ENHANCED BY PRESENCE OF INVITED CRIMINOLOGISTS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES, INCLUDING YUGOSLAVIA AND CANADA. CONFERENCE MADE NO CHANGES TO "ANTI-CRIME" PROPOSALS ADOPTED OFFICIALLY BY PSI AT RECENT DIRECTORATE MEETING.

2. SOCIALIST POSITION COLLIDES HEAD-ON WITH THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC (DC) POSITIONS BY SUPPORTING UNIONIZATION OF THE POLICE FORCE; AND WITH THE PSDI IN ITS OPPOSITION TO GIVING POLICE THE POWER TO DETAIN SUSPECTED LAW BREAKERS WITHOUT CHARGE FOR UP TO 48 HOURS. CONFERENCE SPEAKERS ALSO SCOFFED AT RECENT DC PROPOSALS TO PERMIT EASIER POLICE RECOURSE TO THEIR WEAPONS. FINALLY, DEPUTY SECRETARY MOSCA SET OFF A NEW ROUND OF POLEMICS WITH DC AND PSDI IN CLOSING REMARKS BY ACCUSING DC SECRETARY FANFANI AND PSDI PRESIDENT TANASSI OF BEING ENGAGED IN A RACE TO GARNER RIGHTIST VOTES THROUGH THEIR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 03530 120318Z

ANTI-CRIME PROPOSALS. CITING A STUDY OF "FASCIST VIOLENCE IN

LOMBARDY," HE ADDED THAT FASCISM IS NOT JUST SYMBOLISM, "FASCISM IS ABOVE ALL GOVERNMENT BY THE RIGHT."

3. THAT THE PSI MAJORITY, NEVERTHELESS, IS ANXIOUS TO AVOID HAVING THE LAW AND ORDER ISSUE TURN INTO A CONFRONTATION WHICH COULD BRING DOWN THE GOVERNMENT WAS CLEARLY MANIFEST IN SECRETARY DE MARTINO'S MORE MODERATE PRESENTATION, REMARKABLE FOR ITS ABSENCE OF POLEMICE, AND FOR HIS ADMISSION THAT AT LEAST SOME POLITICAL CRIME IS OF LEFTIST (BUT NOT PSI/PCI) INSPIRATION.

4. COMMENT: THE EVIDENT ELECTORAL CAST OF THE PSI POSITION WAS INDICATED BY THE ASSERTATION THAT THE RISE IN CRIME IS CAUSED PRIMARILY BY FAILURE THUS FAR TO ENACT SOCIALIST PROPOSED REFORMS (E.G., HOUSING, ETC.), INSISTENCE ON THE NEO-FASCIST CHARACTER OF MOST POLITICAL CRIME, AND EVEN OF A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE LATTER AND COMMON CRIME. THERE IS SOME INDICATION, HOWEVER, THAT THE PSI LEADERS ARE CONCERNED LEST THEY NOT BE CONVINCING. DE MARTINO AND HIS PARTY ARE CLEARLY UNCOMFORTABLE WITH THE LAW AND ORDER ISSUE. ON THE ONE HAND, SUPPORT OF POLICE UNIONIZATION IS A MUST FOR ANY SOCIALIST, AND OPPOSITION TO TEMPORARY POLICE DETENTION OF POTENTIAL VIOLATORS IS DICTATED BY THE PSI'S TACIT SUPPORT OF SOME GROUPS OF THE EXTRA-PARLIAMENTARY LEFT AND CIVIL RIGHTS CRUSADERS. ON THE OTHER HAND, TIGHTER LAW AND ORDER MEASURES ARE CURRENTLY A MAJOR DEMAND OF THE MIDDLE CLASS AND MUCH OF THE WORKING CLASS, AND THE CENTER AND RIGHT EQUATE "UNIONIZATION" TO "POLITICIZATION" OF THE POLICE, WITH THE ATTENDANT DOUBT AS TO THE EFFECT ON EFFICIENCY AND RELIABILITY. THE MILAN CONFERENCE WAS AN ELABORATE AND EXPENSIVE EFFORT TO ESTABLISH PSI CREDIBILITY WITH EVERYONE, BUT THE MOUNTAIN APPEARS TO HAVE PRODUCED NO MORE THAN A MOUSE.VOLPE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY LINE, POLITICAL PARTIES, ELECTION CAMPAIGNS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ROME03530
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750085-0973
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750362/aaaacdtu.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ROME 3415
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <14 OCT 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE PSI AND THE "LAW AND ORDER" ISSUE
TAGS: PINT, IT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006